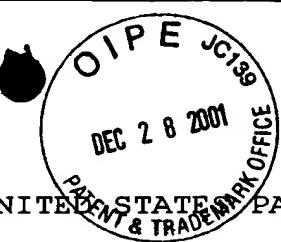


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re the application of:

Travis L. ALLAN et al

Serial No: 09/966,750

Filed : October 1, 2001

For : FRACTURING FLUID

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Prior to line 1 on page 1, kindly insert --**Field of the Invention**--;

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, kindly insert --**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**--;

Page 2, between lines 23 and 24, kindly insert --**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**--;

Prior to line 1 on page 3, kindly insert --**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**--;

Page 3, line 29, kindly delete "mid-modular" and insert in its place --mid-molecular--; and

Page 6, line 10, kindly delete "designed" and kindly insert in its place --desired--.

In the Claims:

Claim 9, kindly amend the claim as follows:

9. (Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 6 [or 7], wherein said breaker is an NaCl or KCl.